

A N  
ADDRESS  
T O

The NOBILITY, COUNTIES  
and ROYAL BURROWS of  
SCOTLAND.

WHEREIN IS SHEWN,

From our present *Situation*, and the *Con-*  
*duct* of the Men who now represent us,  
how unfit *Conventioners* or *Place-men*  
are to promote the *Happiness* or *Interest* of  
the NATION.

The whole being design'd as a proper CAVEAT to the  
ELECTORS.

---

*Semper ego auditor tantum, nunquamne reponam.*

JUV.

*O Liberty! O Virtue! O my Country!*

CATO.

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L O N D O N :

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A N  
A D D R E S S

T O T H E

*Nobility, Counties, and Royal  
Burrows of SCOTLAND.*



**I**T is impossible to reflect on the present State of publick Affairs, on the dismal Situation to which we are now reduced, without feeling the utmost Indignation arise at the Men, whose absurd Measures have almost reduced this once happy Nation to the lowest Degree of Contempt.  
Were

Were we conquered, we might submit; but to be b----d out of our Liberties is what no honest *Briton* can bear. Happy is it that our *Machiavel* has yet condescended to leave us so much of our once boasted Rights, as to give us Room to hope we may yet see another general Election; but who knows but it may be the last? for to what Extravagancies may not a Man proceed, who is sensible that his only Safety depends on retaining a Sett of Tools almost as guilty as himself: But while it is yet in our Power to defeat his Schemes, let us exert ourselves with that Spirit which becomes Freemen and *Britons*. It is to persuade you to this that I now write this Address, for who can be unconcerned to see Ruin in a thousand Shapes approaching? Can a Man, born free, be easy when our Laws, our Liberties, nay, the very Constitution itself is in such extreme Danger? Who, at such an Important Juncture, could refuse his Endeavours to dispel the Mist which seems to cloud the Eyes of so many, to detect the Miscreants, and expose their Crimes? Can a sincere Lover of his Country be silent, and not warn his fellow Subjects to beware of entrusting Men with Power who have formerly so grossly abused it? Indeed, if we shall only consider a few of the many pernicious Schemes to which their V---s have contributed

ted to add a Sanction, that alone would be sufficient to make an honest Heart tremble at the Thoughts of putting again into such Hands all that *Freemen* hold so sacred; but it is a common Art which the Guilty practise to varnish over their Crimes, and with a few soothing deceitful Expressions, or a heap of light and frothy Promises; or, last of all, by villanous persuading Bribes, make their Characters appear tolerable, at least to the unthinking. Now it is my Design, in the following Sheets, to lay before you the Conduct of these Men who have approved themselves to be such eminent Tools to the wickedest M-----r that ever *murdered* the Liberties of a Nation, to give you a succinct View of the destructive Measures he and they have pursued, and to persuade you at last to lay aside all private Views, and for once to prefer the publick Good, your, and your Posterities Advantage to any private Motive whatsoever.

LET me therefore beg your Attention to consider if ever there was a Time when free *Britons* ought more to be upon their Guard, and exert themselves in Defence of these Rights which GOD and the Law has given them. Every Person who is unbiaffed and without Prejudice, sees the dreadful Precipice on which the Liberties of *Great Britain* stand; 'tis but

but one Push more, and farewell all that our brave Ancestors fought and bled for. The sad Circumstances into which an ab-d---d few have brought this unhappy Nation, are so affecting in themselves, and the Consequences so justly to be dreaded, that one would imagine every Man who has the least Remain of Reason, the least Degree of Love to his Country, or the most inconsiderable Spark of Virtue about him, would now exert himself to prevent the finishing Blow to the Happiness of a brave People, who are like to fall Victims to the Wickedness of one Man, Victims to the base Designs of a Fellow Subject, Victims to a Man whom the Parliament of *Great Britain* pronounced a V---ll-n, whose early Years were employed in robbing his Country, and whose latter Days in compleating its Ruin: Have *Britons*, from the first Ages, struggled to be free? Have they checked the arbitrary Rage of Tyrants? Have they fought and died for their Liberties, yea proceeded to extirpate a royal Race, and now shall they tamely sit down and see one of themselves rise like a Meteor from a Dung-hill, and extend his baneful Influence over all that their Forefathers held so sacred? see him bribe and corrupt the Representatives of the People, and squander the publick Treasure, to enrich a Set of vile T---ls, who

vote according to his Direction, and assist him  
 to plunder? Were we made to be the Pro-  
 perty of Wr---es who sell themselves to the  
 best Bidder, who promote the pernicious De-  
 signs of a W---d M-----, and act according to  
 his Pleasure? Is a P-----nt of *Placemen*, a free  
 one? Is that an honest Member, who pre-  
 fers the Puny Reward to the publick Good?  
 Or dare such a one pursue Measures contrary  
 to his Pay-master's Inclination? No; for then  
 farewell the Pension; and, as for Conscience  
 that he had bid farewell to long before, when he  
 first list'd into the Service. Is it not then worth  
 our Attention, when we see Men truly great  
 and good, disgraced because they are honest;  
 and the very Dregs of the People called in  
 to fill their Places, only because they have  
 very plyable Consciences. If this be the Case,  
 let us next enquire if there be yet a Means  
 left to retrieve us from the threatned Danger,  
 to retrieve a brave powerful Nation from  
 Chains, to retrieve the Glory of the *British*  
 Name, to make us once more great and free,  
 to make us again the Terror of our Enemies  
 Abroad, and the Dread of *Europe*? Is there  
 not a Way to deliver us from that Op-----  
 s---n under which we have groan'd these  
 twenty Years? Is there not a Method to set  
 our ruined Trade on its former Basis, and to  
 make our Constitution whole? Indeed while  
 Men



Men are mercenary, 'tis scarce to be thought that the Evil can be remedied; but 'tis not doubted that now the Eyes of all Men are open, and none but Villains will accept of a Bribe, or vote for a M--n that he knows to be a professed T--l of our aspiring *Haman's*. If this be the Disposition of the Nation, we may promise ourselves a free unpen—ed P-----nt, a P-----nt ready to retrieve the Glory of the Crown, to redress the Grievances of the Subject, to thunder Distrustion on our Enemies Abroad, and make us again the same as when all *Europe* courted our Alliance and Friendship; but still 'tis to be apprehended, there are Men that live upon septennial B--b--y, how regard nothing but the present Prospect of a little Gain, and, for that Reason, set themselves and their Votes to Sale. 'Tis likewise certain that the artful m--st--l Crew know but too well how to impose upon the ignorant and unsteady, to colour over their Designs, and to expose the true Patriots as Enemies to the Revolution Establishment. This they have oft done; but now their Stories are so stale, that indeed they must be of a very shallow Capacity, who can believe them; yet such there are who may be led, by Mistake, into the dangerous Folly.

BUT, to proceed in a just Method, it will  
be



be necessary to observe a few Things on the State of the Nation, by which it will appear, how we have been tyrannised over by that Monster of a M--st--r, and his servile T--ls; it will appear how much we have lost of that ancient Spirit, that distinguished Character, which once made us so justly esteemed; it will appear what Ills we have suffered, what a Train of Mischiefs we have gone through; how we have been deluded, robbed, I had almost said, enslaved.

AFTER the fatal Treaty of *Utrecht*, and the Death of the excellent Queen, the Family of *Hanover* succeeded to the Crown, according to the express Will of the Legislature. At that Time the Nation was under the most dismal Apprehensions of a *Popish* Prince; they imagined the prevailing Faction would stick at nothing to accomplish their Design; and therefore 'tis no wonder the Administration of that memorable Period has been loaded with so many bitter Reproaches; 'tis no wonder the thinking Part of the People detested them on Account of the wicked Schemes which they are said to have formed; no Ministry was ever so odious, nor perhaps were ever so many Arts invented to make them appear so; and to be sure, their Conduct in many Shapes deserved Censure, but seldom is it seen, when a bad Opinion of Men is

raised, that it soon dies ; yea it increases,  
 and the watchful Eyes of their Enemies  
 are sure to pry into the minutest Springs of  
 Action, and tho' never so well or wisely con-  
 trived; yet if the Execution fail, the whole  
 Load is laid upon the Men in Power, against  
 whom they bend their Malice, and aim their  
 Revenge; and, as the surest Method to effect  
 it, provoke a before-incensed People, to the  
 Extremes of Fury and Madness, that the Fall  
 of the supposed Miscreants may be unlament-  
 ed, and the other Party at Liberty to play  
 their Game with the utmost Security. Thus  
 it happened with regard to the great, the un-  
 fortunate Men who were in the Administrati-  
 on at the End of the Queen's Reign. Their  
 Conduct was without doubt highly blameable,  
 they sacrificed the Advantages of ten glori-  
 ous Campaigns to the puny Satisfaction of  
 being revenged on the great General who had  
 rescued the Liberties of Europe, and carried  
 the Terror of the *British* Arms to a —  
 Height, which no former Age ever saw, or is  
 likely to see again; to be revenged on the im-  
 mortal *Marlborough*, and the Men who with  
 him had managed the Affairs of the Nation  
 to such Advantage, did that Ministry give  
 up with all which *Great Britain* expect-  
 ed in return for the immense Blood and Trea-  
 sure they had lavished : They prosecuted Dis-  
 senters

senters with an unrelenting Rigour, framed  
 Laws which would have been deemed severe  
 in the most arbitrary Reigns, and pursued  
 Measures which were of infinite Disadvan-  
 tage to the best Part of the Nation. This made  
 them justly obnoxious to the Hate of the  
 People, and when they fell, few but the  
 Partisans of a particular Party were sorry. As  
 for others, they gave loose to the wildest Ex-  
 pressions of joy; they scarce contained them-  
 selves within the Bounds of Modesty, nay of  
 Christianity itself on that Occasion; the Mem-  
 bers of the first Parliament of *George I.* were  
 generally men of such a Stamp as could be  
 wished, honest but easy ; transported to see  
 the happy Days of Liberty, as they thought,  
 effectually established. But alas, this was the  
 Folly of the Times, their extreme joy trans-  
 ported them beyond an Attention to even a  
 possible Danger, they readily complied with  
 every Demand the Court made. Exorbitant  
 Taxes, a high Civil-List, Treasons and Im-  
 peachments were the Business of this Parlia-  
 ment ; it was they who laid the Foundation  
 of all that Servility and low Dependence  
 which has since been the Characteristick of  
 a *British* H--se of C——s; and here the  
 Honest Sir *R——t* began first to play his  
 Game. In the former Parliament, he had been  
 voted to the Tower, and expelled the House,  
 for

for as notorious Roguery as ever a Highway-man was trussed up for at *Tyburn*; but according to the Spirit of the Times, this very Villany, this Villany so well proven, and so atrocious, was constructed Merit; he was look'd upon as a Sufferer for the Whig Interest, and he well knew how to manage the Matter, so as to gain his own Ends, and revenge himself on his Opposers: In short he became great and more wicked, he became necessary in the Management, by his Dexterity in bribing, and at last so effectually secured himself, that his Pr---e found he could not be without him: Unhappy is it for a King to be the Tool of a Subject, he is led into Measures which he sees not the Consequences of, and is led to pursue them, against the Mind of his People, which at last will, and must end in some grand Revolution to the Destruction of the Wretch that first proposed them.

BUT to proceed, this complaisant Parliament repealed an Act, which one would have thought no *British* H---se of C-----s would ever have attempted; by an express Law it was provided, that no King of *Great Britain* could go abroad to leave his Dominions, it was likewise provided that he should be entirely unconcerned with the Dominions of *Hanover*, but these were soon got over: And let us now see the Consequence of the Repeal.

Tri-

Triennial Parliaments, which seemed as sacred as the *magna Charta* itself, were likewise v--t--d, and a Septennial Parliament came in their Place. Thus we see how this Adept in Wickedness began, he took Advantage of the State of the Nation, and that extravagant Spirit which then reigned, to drive Men into Measures which if they are not timely altered, the last *Briton* will remember with an Imprecation! Attainders, Impeachments, standing Armies, heavy Taxes, Repeal of salutary Laws, were what he first set out with, and has since continually practised, in as far as his Power or his own Safety could allow him; but Men soon began to see through the Deceit, and when it was too too late, to repent of their running so headlessly into such pernicious Measures; Therefore, as soon as he again had the Power, he found that Bribery alone could secure him Success to his detested Measures, and for that End, new Taxes were contrived, heavier Impositions laid on, the penal Laws extended, and every Commodity excised, and scarce any Necessary of Life left without paying some Part, sometimes half its Value to the Crown. As for us we too felt the fatal Effects, Poor and harassed as we were, without Trade, without Commerce, without a Court, and without Money, yet still we behoved to bear a Share in the



the Impositions; that heaviest and most severe of Taxes on Malt was immediately entailed upon us and our Posterity; we had no Redress, submit we must; and tho' it was shewn with an irresistible and convincing Reason, by that early and great *Patriot*, my Lord *Arnison*, then his Majesty's Advocate for *Scotland*, how little able we were to bear such a Tax, and how little Ground there was to impose it; yet it was voted, and which of us feels not its *baneful Influence*. And here let me observe how soon our T——nt M——r began to express his Repentment at the Men who opposed his pernicious Schemes, as if it was a received Maxim, That to act with a noble Disinterestedness for the Good of one's Country, was sufficient Reason for a Disgrace: That excellent Man was turn'd out of his high Office, and stript of all: But how little did that discompose him; he continued the same Love to his Country, and the same publick Spirit; he continued to trace him in his various Disguises, to detect his Measures, and always to act for the Good of *Great Britain*, with a Firmness equal to an old *Roman*, and with an honest Steadiness which few in the H——e of C——ns can boast of. But, to pass from a Character so well known, so universally beloved and admired, I proceed to shew you after what Manner that Gentleman



tleman went on in his pernicious Designs. After he had thus established himself and his *Posse*, his next and only Concern was, how to secure the Possession ; this he found could only be done by new Advances in Wickedness, by scattering Places and Pensions, and B---s, which he did with as liberal a Hand as ever Man could do ; by this Means many of the most worthless and poor were entertained and promoted, whose very Subsistence depended upon their acting agreeable to ministerial Dictates : By this Means he became not afraid to propose Excises, to negotiate contradictory Treaties, to advance T——ls to be Embassadors, and to make us a Laughingstock to the whole World. We paid Armies and Fleets either for *Shew*, or to do the *Jobs of some other Nation*, who ridiculed us for our Silliness. It is needless to re-mind you of the *Spithead* Expeditions, the *Baltick* and *Mediterranean* Voyages, the Treaties of *Hanover*, *Seville*, &c. all so many lasting Disgraces to this once feared and powerful Nation. I have seen it computed, that in these useless Shews, these Jobs peculiar to himself, we have spent half as much again as when we maintain'd a ten Years War against the united Force of *France* and *Spain* together, as when we gain'd the Battles of *Hocksted*, *Ramellies*, *Oudenarde* and *Mal-*

*Malplaquet* : Now, what can his Adherents, his *Banditti*, say ? To *Hocksted* let them oppose the Shew at *Spithead*, to *Ramillies* the *Naples* Expedition, to *Oudenarde* *Haddock's* pacifick Voyage, and to *Malplaquet* the present Encampments on *Honfrow*. But all these Jobs, as usefess as they were ruining, seem'd only as a Prelude to the finiftruous Designs he had in View. That insolent, but cowardly Nation, *Spain* I mean, had been encreasing their repeated Depredations on the *British* Subjects for many Years, without the least Notice taken of it by our excellent Ad——tion; to these *Robberies* they added *unheard-of Cruelties* and *Insults* which would have been sufficient to have roused up one not lost to Wickedness : But he, deaf even to the Call of Nature, void of that Compassion which the basest sometime share, and intent on our Ruin, allowed all, yea, I may say, encouraged it. In vain did the Nation remonstrate; in vain did the Parliament interpose ; yea, in vain did his Majesty take Measures to redress his injured Subjects ; he found Means to baffle all ; he had sworn the Destruction of our Trade, because the Merchants were too honest for his Designs, and therefore endeavoured to accomplish it by the basest Means, even to sell their undoubted Rights by

by Treaty : Who can reflect on the late C-----  
 -----on without Horror ? What Precipices  
 were we and all our Rights upon, and yet  
 that M-----ster lives and reigns ; but, when  
*Spain* itself refused to pay the petty Sum sti-  
 pulated by that *infamous T-----ty*, and when  
 many noble Peers were then for voting it an  
 Infraction of the *Convention*, did not his T--ls  
 oppose the honest Motion, and, by their In-  
 terest, procured it to be rejected ? After,  
 when Letters of Marque and Reprisals were  
 granted, his Conduct but too well justified  
 the Sentiments which every honest *Briton*  
 entertain'd of him. He hung a dead Weight  
 on all our warlike Measures ; *Spain* got  
 Time to be upon her Guard, to secure the  
*Assogue* Ships, and to give the Alarm to  
 her distant Colonies, to fit out Privateers, and  
 to enrich herself at the Expences of our Mer-  
 chants. Before the Declaration of War, few  
 could trust the deceitful Appearance ; few  
 could venture to lay out a vast Sum on a  
 Letter of Marque-Ship, when they knew  
 not but next Moment it might be recalled,  
 which had been the Case not many Years  
 before ; and besides, at that Time, it is cer-  
 tain these Commissions were so clogged with  
 extraordinary Articles, that no Man could  
 have ventured on one at the v---nous Rate ;  
 for, what Merchant would lay himself out,

or run the Risque of accounting for every single Article aboard of Vessels which his Ship might have had the good Fortune to take; especially, as he was sure it would be at last referred to Commissaries; the *Spanish* ones, he knew, could state an excellent Account, and the *British* ones he knew too, would as easily pass it. But, during this inglorious Period, tho' all Mens Eyes were intent upon the mighty Armaments we were making, yet what was done? Why, *Haddock* lay very peaceful; we had a Bustle at Home, and were laughed at Abroad: Our Neighbours knew well the Genius of our M-----r; they had seen the like before, Men of War commissioned, Land Forces raised, Embargoes, &c. and seen all to come to nothing; nor indeed had they been deceived in their Conjecture if the prime D-v-l had got his Will; 'tis known, 'tis Fact, 'tis as notour as the Day, that he spoke against the Declaration of W--r with such Vehemence, as if his All had depended on our Ruin; and when the Majority of the P----y Council was clear against him, he burst out into an ill-timed Rage, and abused a noble P---r then present. However, at last we got into a W--r, if I may call it by such a Name, and no one doubted but it would be carried on with Spirit, and pushed with that Vigor which the Nation

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tion expected, and which our Enemies had good Cause to dread ; but, as he saw it impossible to prevent the Declaration, so he resolved to plot how it should not be any thing further than a Matter of mere Form : As if he had been a retained Pensioner of *Spain's*, he had the Interest to procure such Orders to our Ad-----ls, that they have as yet never dared to fire one Shot on a Town of that Kingdom ; they have lain still, dead asleep, and only sometimes picked up a straggling Ship, that would not defray the Expences of a Man of War's Pay for one Day : Indeed Admiral *Vernon*, that brave Patriot, has done Wonders with his little Squadron ; but, let any one tell me why he was sent off at such a Time, with such a trifling *Few* ? Was it not rather sending him to sure Destruction, than to Victory ? yet Providence, which always regards the *Good* and the *Honest*, has protected him, yea crowned his vast Designs with surprising Success ; but how agreeable has this been to our *Machiavel* ? Is it not yet at his Heart ? Does he not now keep a Parcel of infamous W-----hes in Pay, to blacken the Memory of the Action at *Porto Bello* ? Have they not lavished Abundance of Nonsense upon the Head ? and do they not still go on with their Scurrilities and Abuses ? This is convincing to the most Faithless, how  
he,



he, Sir *R-----t*, relished a War declared just and necessary by Parliament, and by the unanimous Voice of the Nation.

HAS he not since been at pains to negotiate a Peace? For can we think that *France* or any other Power, would so often offer to mediate if they had not some Assurance of Success, it is almost certain, that on a proper Enquiry, it will be found, we have been bullied out of our Senses; we have had a shew of War, we have had immense Taxes, and to what Purpose? Why the sooner to compleat our destin'd Ruin! Our Merchants are plundered, their Ships and Effects seized almost within Shot of a powerful Navy; the Channel where hitherto no Fleet durst Venture, without paying dear for the ill-timed Arrogance, is become infested with *Spanish* Pyrates, our Ships of W--r lye still, nor has the least O--d--s been issued out to prevent such a Manifest and glaring Disgrace. We have been two Years making Preparations, and yet could never foresee that our Trade needed Protection; our 20 Gun Ships have been building, and will probably be dispatched, when there is no further Occasion for them. But the plain Key to all this monstrous Conduct is in short this, the Merchants forced our pacifick M----r into a War, and in Return he'll force them humbly to Petition for  
a P---e:



a P---ce: Is it not scandalous to see Sixty Thousand idle F---ows in pay, devouring the Land like so many Locusts, when we are engaged in only a naval War? Is it not Disgraceful to see them encouraged to make a shew at *H--flow*, while our brave S--t-s feel all the Hardships of the War, and at the same Time are almost poisoned by bad Provisions; yea, if he had got his Will, and the Bill for registering of Seamen had passed, they would have been reduced to as absolute a State of Slavery as any *African* Slaves. But, to pass from his publick Conduct with regard to that grand national Concern, let us view him in another Light; let us see if ever he intends we shall be happy; if he only designs to tread upon our Necks himself, or designs to leave our Liberties as a Legacy to his Successors. 'Tis needless to view Things of an old Date, only consider his Measures from the memorable *Excise Scheme* till now, and tell me with that Sincerity that becomes a *Free-Man*, if he has approved himself to one Man in the Nation; yea, I could appeal to his very T---ls themselves, for I'm sure, in their cool Moments, they feel a Sting which sours the puny Pleasures which their *Pensions* bestow; look at the V---s of the H---e of C---s for the last seven Years, and shew me one publick-spirited Act; you'll

you'll see many wherein the penal Clauses are extended, new Punishments devised for Crimes which our brave Ancestors knew nothing about, and which, not many Centuries ago, would have cost the prime M——r his Head to propose ; but where is that Spirit now ? Where is that *Love of Liberty* ? that *Honesty* which once distinguished us ? It seems also to be lost, and *Corruption* to have swallowed up the brave Sentiments of *British Liberty*, which our Forefathers died to defend. Consider, last S——ons, how your just Demand, to have the Number of *Pl——ce men* limited, was treated. Consider how that salutary Law was rejected, and by whom ? Is it not evident then, that he designs to hand down his T——ny, and set a Pattern to succeeding Ministers, after what Manner to treat the Petitions of all the great Cities and Incorporations of *Great Britain*. As for you my Friends and Countrymen, you well know the Regard is paid to your Characters ; your Names are rendred vile by the T——ls of the M——r ; he calls you his own ; he gives out, *Show but a few Guineas and he'll show you a V——e* : Is there not a certain P——r retained in Pay for no other Reason, than to br——e you : He calls you poor Devils, and practises upon your *Honesty* ; but, have you lost all Regard to yourselves ; think on the

memo-

memorable Year, when the A--h-V--l-n design'd in a manner to blot your Name and Remembrance from off the Face of the Earth; think on his Conduct with regard to your Capital; and think on all the Impositions and Taxes, which now, by his Means, harass you: Is there a Parish without an *Excise-man*? Are you safe to eat your Bread in Peace, without being disturbed by these low Fellows? Can your Manufactures thrive, when every Material that is requisite to bring them to Perfection is ex---ed? And must not your Labour, the Sweat of your Brows, go for nothing, when *Ireland* can undersell you? Is not this your Condition? whence the Number of your Poor? Whence the Deadness of our Trade? Whence all these loud Complaints? What is their Origin and Cause, but the unmerciful Hand which burdens you with T-x-s which you cannot pay?

HAVING thus laid before you a succinct View of the Conduct of our prime M-----r, is it not evident that he has been in a Conspiracy against our Liberties ever since he came into the Ad---ft---ion; is it not evident that he scatters *Places* and *Pensions* with no other View than to retain a Sett of T---ls, whose Votes may secure him in the Power he hath usurp'd; But is it the Business of a *Briton* to endeavour to secure these Men in Power

Power, who only use it to promote every Scheme that makes for our Ruin? Much less can it be the Interest of this County; poor and harassed as it is, it is still free, at least has the Name of being so; and therefore ought, in Proportion to its Hardships and Poverty, exert itself at such a Crisis.

CALL to Mind what you once were, when *independent, great and happy*; when you had Kings and a Parliament of your own; when your Alliance was courted by powerful Princes; when foreign States vied who should gain your Favour: Think how at that Time your immortal Ancestors behaved; did they ever give up their Rights and Liberties to the most aspiring? No, with brave and rough Spirits they maintained them spite of all Opposition? Did then the Favourite of a King tread upon their Necks? Do we read of pack'd P——nts? Do we hear of dishonourable Tr——s, without severe Animadversions? Was it the Custom of our Illustrious Ancestors to sit still under Violence and Oppression? How often have they removed head-strong Kings? And how often punished m---nt Vi---ns, who would have exalted themselves against the Interest of the Community? Need I put you in Mind of the infamous *Cochran*? Need I tell you of the noble and honest spirited Behaviour of the Nobility when

even

even a good King was led to appoint *Oliver Sinclair* to command a *Scotch* Army, the Nobility left it, they saw the Dishonour which behoved to ensue, and would have no Share in the ill timed, and worse conducted Expedition: This was the noblest Check that could be given to wild Measures, and shewed that Men of Sense and Spirit would judge for themselves, and act against every false Scheme which was projected to ruin the then conquered *Scotch* Nation. Read over our Annals, look at the immortal Actions of your brave Ancestors, and tell me when their Spirits fell, when their Love of Liberty was conquered, when they desisted to appear for the Honour and the Interest of their Country? Carry it down to late Times, and tell me if they did not rather improve the honest free Maxims which their Ancestors had handed down? Did they not refine their Sentiments of Liberty, and act with a nobler Disinterestedness for the publick Good? These are Facts which all Annals will testify. Now, let us look on the sad Reverse, and view the Conduct of their degenerate Sons; of Men who, in former Days, all honest *Scotsmen* would have disowned to acknowledge: Let us see them pimping for a Place, engaging in a thousand dirty Jobs, selling their Country's Rights, exposing their Conscience to Sale,



v---t---g for a known V-----n, promoting  
 Excises, Standing Armies, Conventions:  
 Could one think the once illustrious *Scots*  
 Nation was so far degenerate to entrust such  
 Men? Will it not look like a Romance in  
 after Times, to read that the Sons of those  
 Heroes who had fought and fallen for the  
 Cause of Liberty, should give their Voice  
 for a known T--l of the wretchedest Man that  
 ever flyly went about to ruin a Nation? But  
 indeed, there are some Excuses to be offered  
 for your former Lists; Men had not, at that  
 Time, declared themselves so openly, nor  
 was the Nation aware to what Length the  
 present pernicious Set would drive; but now  
 you see them; now you see how you have  
 been served; now let your Eyes be open  
 to Conviction, and let no Temptation nor  
 Bribe lead you aside from the Election of  
 such Men as will most probably redress  
 all the Ills under which you groan.

CONSIDER with yourselves, What will a  
 puny Bribe avail, when your own Consci-  
 ence shall tell you how you have acted?  
 when it shall sting you with a cutting Re-  
 morse, for having put the last Hand to the  
 finishing Stroke which cut off the Liberties of  
 your Country? Who knows but you may  
 live yourselves to see the dismal Scene? but  
 you may live to see your once boasted Rights  
 the



the Prey of every vile rapacious Invader, who shall tell you that he seizes it by Law? who knows but you may yet see Posterity cursing your gray Hairs, and imputing to your avaricious Humour all the Ills which they shall then groan under? And is all this of no Moment? Will you not judge for yourselves? Will you look on the present State of Things and be unconcerned? If you can be roused before it be too late, trust not yourselves in the Hands of Men who sell you, and your Properties for their own private Advantage. If you be doubtful of the Truth of this, think on the late Acts which have passed, think on the Penalties enacted, and consider now if you are in the same State that you were only twenty four Years ago. Sure I am every Man can answer this Question to himself, and according to the Return that his own Heart shall make him let him vote. What is it, my Countrymen, that persuades you to Ruin? Why are you thus deluded? Is it the perfidious Smile of one who courts you once in seven Years, who visits and leads your Senses astray by the false Shew of Grandeur? Or is it the trifling B--be that prevails? Is it that, or a fine Promise of lucrative Places? If you trust to any of these, God help you. Cannot you see for what Ends you are regarded, when you are only thought worth the  
ap-

applying to once in seven Years? Are you  
 of such a dastardly, silly, submitting Spirit,  
 as to value that as a Favour, which is plainly  
 designed to serve a private Job at yours and  
 the Publick's Expence. Is it for yourselves  
 you are cajol'd and courted? Be not deceived,  
 if it were so, then we should find another Kind  
 of Conduct. But for ever to convince you of  
 the Nature of these Mens Complaisance, think  
 only on the profound Regard they have shewn  
 to your Inclinations, Is it your Mind, or the  
 Mind of Sir *Robert Walpole* that they con-  
 sulted? and then tell me which of you it is  
 to serve, that they gad about and caress you?  
 But does another Motive influence your Voice?  
 Is it the villanous Bribe? If it be that, fare-  
 wel all that Honour and Honesty which the  
 Nation was once so distinguished for? Was  
 it to sell your Conscience that you learn'd  
 to be a Man? Was it to be wicked that  
 you was made? But, abstracting from all  
 Reasons of a Moral Consideration, think with  
 yourselves how little at the last it will serve  
 your Purpose; Will you not be detested by  
 all the Good and the Wise? Will you not be  
 marked out as infamous and vile? And will  
 you not be pointed at as one who endeavou-  
 red to betray his Trust for a Handful of Dirt?  
 For is it else in Consideration of the high *De-*  
*positum* lodged with you? It is needless  
 for

for me to shew you the Danger of such a Practice ; to name it, is enough to expose it. Were all the Electors of your Turn, what a fine Parliament should be our next ? Do you think these Men give Money out of their own Pockets ? or that their Patron advances it for them without a View of being reimbursed ? And pray, by whom are they to be refunded ? is it not by yourselves ? And be assured it will be with Interest. These Considerations a good and honest Man (and which of you claims not the Character ?) will think sufficient to make him detest the Bribe, and treat it with that Scorn and brave Disdain which it merits. For is it not obvious, that how soon Corruption becomes universal, a Set of Men will enact Laws to secure themselves in Power, and to free them from the septennial Expence which now they are put to.

BUT let me now lay before our Nobility certain Considerations to persuade them to act honestly in their Country's Cause. I freely own the Generality of them, I hope the Majority, are Men of Character, who disdain to sell a Vote at any Price whatsoever. If hitherto they have been imposed upon, if hitherto they have entertained any favourable Notions of those in Power, I persuade myself that no Blind for the future will prevail

vail upon them to act otherwise than for the general Good. The Time was when *Scotland* was a free independent Kingdom, had a Parliament and Legislature of its own; Then the brave Ancestors of our *Scottish* Peers shewed themselves above Corruption; as often as publick Measures required Animadversion, so often did they rise with a noble Spirit to curb Oppression in its Bud. No Power could secure the rapacious Minister from the publick Censure, or from Punishment. Now they are only represented by 16 chosen from among and by themselves; and, according to their worthy or unworthy Choice, must they reflect an Honour or Disgrace on the whole of their illustrious Body. I persuade myself that I need but few Arguments with such honourable Men. Their Notions of Honour and of Virtue are too refin'd to make them stoop to do the dirty Jobs of a M-----r, or a Minister's T---l. They retain more of that honest Spirit which inspir'd their Fathers with such noble and generous Sentiments, to need an Exhortation from any one how to behave, when the publick Good and Safety calls upon them so loudly to exert themselves. Only as I'm apprehensive there may be some, (for who is not liable to be deluded) that yet are in a wavering State, that look on Liberty on the one Hand with a favourable

yourable Eye, and on their Pl--e and P--n-  
 ---n with an equal Warmth on the other;  
 some who are no Enemies to honest Measures  
 but regard themselves and their own private  
 Advantage more. Now, if I could be so  
 happy to undeceive any, if any be, of those  
 illustrious Persons, I should think myself  
 amply rewarded, by seeing with what publick  
 Spirit they act at this important Juncture.  
 Allow me therefore, with the utmost Sub-  
 mission, to lay before such a few Considera-  
 tions. And, *first*, Consider the Consequences  
 of supporting any List, but that which ap-  
 pears for Men in the true Interest of their  
 Country. I shall not now paint the affecting  
 Scene which will probably ensue, neither  
 need I tell you, that past Measures and Votes  
 are the best Criterion to distinguish Men.  
 What if the old List v--te us an Approbation  
 of an infamous P---ce? What has happened  
 once may happen again; and they whose  
 Consciences were wide enough to swallow  
 down the detested disgraceful Con-----n, will  
 scarce stand at any other Job whatsoever.  
 But, *secondly*, Will you allow the Sense of  
 Honour to strike you with a becoming  
 Warmth? Which of you would tamely  
 bear an Affront from another even of  
 the same Character and Quality with your-  
 selves



selves? Yet nothing can be more certain,  
 than that one Man counts on your V--es as  
 only so many hundred Pounds laid out. If  
 this be not an Affront to be bought and sold,  
 and all to have your Country plundered, speak  
 for yourselves: Tell me, ask your own  
 Hearts, which of your brave Ancestors would  
 have tamely born the Sneer, would have  
 tamely allowed an upstart W--tch to make  
 you a Laughing-stock to his own base T---ls,  
 and a Disgrace to the Name of a Nobleman?  
 I dare venture to affirm, that had one of those  
 brave Souls, whose illustrious Blood enrich  
 your Veins, but heard of such a scandalous  
 Affront, his generous Heart would have led  
 him to seek the V--ll--n; and give him the  
 Lie in his Throat. But, *thirdly*, Will you  
 consider how the Great and the Good amongst  
 you have been treated? Shall I tell you of  
 the Disgrace of the brave *Argyle*, or of the  
 illustrious *Stair*? Is it needful to entertain  
 you with the History of the Conduct of these  
 eminently honest Men? No: I persuade  
 myself there is not one of you but feels, for  
 the whole of your illustrious Body, in the  
 Disgrace put on these two excellent Peers.  
 Think how it came about; think what occa-  
 sion'd it; think on the V--ll--n that advised  
 it, and on him who now visits and courts you  
 to defend his own I-f-my in refusing to join  
 his

his immortal B--h--r. Will no virtuou  
 Motives prevail on you to judge for your-  
 selves? Is it only the Cut-throat Smile, the  
 Arts of a septennial fawning Sycophant,  
 back'd with powerful B---es, that gains you?  
 Alas! Where is *Scottish* Freedom, when  
 the Sons of her once renowned Champions  
 sell it at such a trifling Rate? Well may  
 every honest Heart lament, when we are re-  
 duced to such an infamous Pass! But even,  
 My Lords, the B--be, the Place, the P--sion,  
 can be no prevailing Motive with a conside-  
 ring Man; and this I hope to shew you with  
 such Clearness as shall amount to a Demon-  
 stration: For if it be only on Account of the  
 present View that you are resolved to vote,  
 then think with yourselves, and that in a  
 cool and deliberate Manner, if the present  
 Blunders of the Ad——ion can long suc-  
 ceed without an universal Cry for Redress, or  
 without an Attempt to expel the Enemies of  
 our King, and of our Constitution. Think if  
 any Thing besides a standing Ar--y will or  
 can secure a W--tch in Power, who so  
 grossly abuses it. Think if *G--t B--t--n*  
 be fallen into such a Lethargick Fit as that  
 she will not rouse herself; and think if the  
 Time is far off, when your Protector, your  
 Patron, will be severely called to an Account  
 for all his Cr--es and Mism——nts. If

this be morally certain even in a little Time, how will you look when all honest Men despise you, as one of that M-----ant's T---ls, and H--k--ny V--ters? And can you expect you should be noticed by any succeeding Administration, but as Enemies to your Country? The B--be, the Place, the Pen---n fails, and with it fails the fawning of the C---rt-Sycophant, who before addressed you. For, be sure, he will take Care of one. But this is not what you have to struggle with, you have Infamy, Disgrace, and the Curses of all, at whose Expence you assisted a M--st-r to oppress and devour. Indeed, had you Thoughts of his being able to secure himself in Power, I should not blame you so much: For altho' all honest Men will contribute to pull him down, yet as you are only actuated by private Views, you would, no doubt, join to support your Pay-master. But, alas! that cannot be, tho' he and you too join your Efforts, 'tis morally certain that fall he must; and then you may bid Farewel to Honour and to your P---sions at once. But further, with what Uncertainty do you possess your Places? They depend upon the arbitrary Will of a M--st-r, who will kick you out at his Pleasure. Think how precarious the Tenure must be, which depends on a Man who constructs it a Crime to think or speak honestly,

nestly, who only punishes Virtue. If you  
 would have the Character of honest Men, it  
 is impossible you can serve him; for how  
 soon he finds out that you are not as wicked  
 as himself, or as wicked as he desires you to  
 be, go you must. Now, would a wise Man  
 risque his Character, his Reputation, his Ho-  
 nesty, nay, even the very Place he now en-  
 joys, for such puny Considerations as can be  
 now offered him? Depend on't, this is our  
 prime V——n's last Effort; he now sum-  
 mons up all his Strength to exert himself to  
 prevent his Fall, but that is impossible; for  
 I believe there is not one in *Great Britain*  
 but will heartily contribute to it, except  
 those whom he retains in Pay. Consider how  
 your Honours have been handed down un-  
 stained from your illustrious Sires; And shall  
 their Sons sully them in such a contemptible  
 Manner? What Figure can you imagine your  
 Names will make in History? Or how con-  
 temptible will Posterity think you, when  
 they come to compare your Degeneracy with  
 the heroick Deeds of your great Progenitors?  
 Will they not curse the Day when their Coun-  
 try produced such Men, Men born to pro-  
 tect her, and yet who gave up her Rights for  
 a puny B-be? Think not to pass unobser-  
 ved in the Annals of the Times; no, your  
 latest Posterity will read how you disgraced  
 the

the honourable Race. Is this no Motive, and cannot this prevail with an ingenuous Mind? Great as you are, you are subject to Censure, and think with what Face a few Years hence you shall be noted, as the infamous Abettors of all the pernicious Schemes were contrived at this Period to en--ve your Country. Think on the honest Conduct of the brave, the immortal *Argyle*. Think on the virtuous Disgrace of the illustrious *Stair*. Think if these Characters remain unsullied, how yours shall appear fair? Oh! my Countrymen, for I call you by the familiar Name, the greatest and the most virtuous Designation I know, I tremble for you. A thousand and a thousand Hearts beat and are perplex'd, lest now you sully all your Honours, lest now the great Houses, from which you derive your Honours, should, in future Times, be branded with a Load of Infamy on your Account.

THINK, but think in Time, if it be better to go unpen---ned, were it to the Grave, than sell the Rights which you was design'd to protect, than entail a perpetual Infamy on your Name, and make your Children cursed and hated for the Sake of the inf---us Father. Let it never be said, That *Scotland* was so degenerate; ~~she~~ she has indeed seen degenerate

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generate Days † ; she once saw her Sons submit, but these have not now a Name! The more uncorrupted, tho' then the Minority at last prevailed, and the Great Immortal *Bruce* triumphed. Look at the History of that Age, and tell me which of you would not be a *Douglas* ? Or which of you does not glory in having the Arms of that immortal Man in your Scutcheons ! Why then are you now dispirited ? True it is your Fortunes are not so great as your Neighbours in *England* ; but shall you therefore have less Honesty ; consider after what Manner they are impaired ? Is it not by the Honesty of yourselves, or Forefathers, who would not submit to ministerial Oppression, who exposed all for your Country, and kept up the Character of honest Patriots in spite of the Stigma's, which aspiring Men at that Period put upon your Families ? Now, what of all that Ridicule remains ? Scarce do we find it otherwise than preserved to their Reproach, and by hereditary Tradition. But if your Families and Fortunes are so low, tell me, is this Method which you now pursue, proper to restore you to your ancient Splendor ? No ! and this you may be convinced of by an easy Argument ; for tell me, can the Amount of your Pen-

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† The Author means the *Cummings* and their Adherents, who submitted to *Edward Longshanks*, and are now almost extirpated.

Pen---ns enable you to remove the Inconveniences, which the Virtues of your Forefathers, and the Crimes of publick Enemies, have brought upon your Estate? Surely they cannot; a few Hundreds may prove a present Relief, but can never do any Thing else. And what other Way can you pretend to have again of advancing yourselves to the pristine State in which your Ancestors so brightly shone? Are you not persuaded that you are only called upon once in seven Years to give a V---te? Does the present Ad-----tion seek for any Thing else about you? Or is it for any other Motive you are distinguished by the B---be or the P-----n? Tell me if your Merit is enquired after, or if you are deemed necessary to give your Assistance in any publick Affair, except to v---e for the C---t L---t once in seven Years? Is this then to be endur'd? Have you not an equal Title with others to the first Posts which your C---try can bestow? But have you not seen (for I shall appeal to ocular Demonstration) that Virtue, Merit and Capacity are Crimes in the Eyes of our *Machiavel*? Have you not seen the most worthy of your Fel---ow Pe---rs turn'd out, and Sc---rels substituted in their Room? Is it not therefore your Business to v---te for Men to represent your illustrious Body, who have no Attachment to  
any

any particular Interest but the Service of their Country? If their honest Measures shall succeed, then indeed you have a fair Chance to raise yourselves to all that Glory which distinguished the greatest of your Name; for when Merit and Capacity shall only be the Motives to Preferment you may hope all; but if you continue to eat the Bread of B---ry, how bitter will the infamous Morsel be in the End: You yourselves will find of how little Service to you it was; you will reproach yourselves with be---ying your Country for such a puny Consideration; and when a Turn of Affairs happens, in vain will you expect to be noticed; for what honest Man would not look upon you with the utmost Contempt? The meanest Beggar is greater because honest than you; and indeed, when Greatness gives only a Power to be more illustriously mischievous, it is only a Title which reflects a more lasting and glaring Shame, than Vi——ns of a meaner Stamp can pretend to? But why do I spend so much Time about a Matter which I persuade myself all are sensible of? and while so many of our prime Nobility remain untainted, I can't think but their Example will teach others to be honest; for as many who before appeared in the Interest of the Mi-----r (because at that Time he was not so illustriously

ly wicked ) are now become Converts to common Sense and Reason ; it is not to be supposed but others will follow their Example ; for indeed I must excuse many who thought our A---h-V---l---n had done amiss, but still thought he had no sinister Designs upon the L---ies and the C-n--tion of *Great Britain*. These I readily excuse, as their Prejudice flowed from this one honest, tho' misguided, Principle, still to put the fairest Construction on the Actions of others ; but how soon they found that his Vi-----ies and Br-----ies knew no Bounds, when they saw his pernicious Schemes so visibly tend to the Ruin of their Country ; then, with a brave Disdain, they turned their Back upon the Mis---nt, and left him ; they sacrificed all to the Interest of *Great Britain*, gave up their Places, I dare say, with as great, nay a greater, Satisfaction than ever they received them. Learn by such to be honest, to be daring and good ! And the same Honours, the same immortal Characters shall attend you. Is there no Way for a *Scotch* Pe--r to live but on the Bounty of a Vi-----an ? Shall this be said ? Shall it be mutter'd, Why do we live in such degenerate Days ? and why are the last Sentiments of Virtue extinguished ?

NEED I name the Men who, for a Course of Years, have opposed the Torrent that will

at last turn to a Deluge, if not timely prevented. The illustrious Duke of *Hamilton* and *Brandon*, a Prince of the Royal Blood, a Man who does more for the Interest of his Country, by encouraging every useful Art or Science, than all the T---ls of the opposite Faction put together: Has he not long struggled, and struggled to his immortal Glory, and for what? not to advance himself; that he disdained. For what then, but to promote the universal Good of all his Fellow Subjects? I know well how that honest Nobleman is treated; but his Country has got more of his Money than from all the other Dukes in *Britain*; and, as for distinguishing himself, think if it be not honest to retire when impious M--n bear Sway.

SEE the illustrious *Queensberry*, a Man eminent for every good Qualification, eminent for all that makes the compleat Statesman, for all that can merit the Name of Virtue, see him turn'd out, disgraced; see that Friend of Mankind, whose Bosom warms when Virtue suffers, see him stigmatized as far as vi---ous F---ion can do; see him, a Friend to all, yet mild to his Enemies, and only bitter to the Enemies of *Great Britain*.

NEED I Name *Montrose*, or the young, deserving, already immortal *Marchmont*; the one, for a Series of Years a rigid Patriot, the



other beginning in early Youth to shine forth with all the Lustre that ever aggrandized an Old Roman. To give *Marchmont* a Character would require a Pen only equal to his own. Matchless Man ! Shall the Parliament of *Great Britain* be deprived of your Divine Eloquence and Wisdom, by the Votes of your Fellow Peers; let it never be; avert it Heaven !

BUT I should lose Time to Name the noble Patriots who have stood so long undaunted amidst Corruption. *Roxburgh's* steady Character will be his lasting Glory, and the Firmness of *Aberdeen* add a new Sanction to the Merit which all acknowledge to be his due.

BUT last of all, let me mention the Great, the Not-Unfortunate *Argyle*, a Name which will stand sacred while *British* Story recounts its Heroes; not only shall he be celebrated for the compleat Statesman, the able General, the sincere Friend, but, what infinitely excels all, for an Honest Man, a Man whom the best Times of Antiquity would have been proud to have enrolled amongst their Demi-gods: But, to name him is enough---

FOLLOW then the Example of these who set you such a fair Pattern, let it animate you to aspire at a Character greater than you derive from your illustrious Ancestors; And

if all these will not do, only think on the first and best of Men, the immortal *Stair*. He lost all, he suffer'd all, and smil'd! Why, it was for his Country, that was enough; does not Disgrace dignify such, and who would not wish to share in such an illustrious Fall.

BUT I have done; I beg your Excuse, my Lords, for the Presumption of this Address; but it was only design'd for such amongst you who v--e for Pay, and who are capable of being brib'd; that there are such, you know well, is glory'd in, but never shall I say it, till Demonstration convince me.

ONLY, as the Temptations will probably be now stronger than ever, therefore set a stronger Guard on your Honesty, consider your old T--pter is now paying his Septennial Visit; trust him not, nor believe a Man who has cheated you so often; no one doubts his Cunning and Capacity, therefore learn to avoid him as you would avoid betraying the Interest of your Country, as you would avoid ruining yourselves, as you would avoid a lasting Reproach to be entail'd on your Family, and as you would avoid the Curses and Imprecations of latest Posterity on your Name and Family. Are you quite blind? See you not for what End this anniversary Courtesy is paid you? And will you still be deceived with  
empty

empty Shew, with Names, with specious Pretexts, with Trifles? No; Let it never be said you was brib'd out of your Honour, or cajoled into Schemes destructive of all that your Ancestors fought and bled for: 'Twas they who handed down the Rights of your Country to you, and how will you look their Honest upbraiding Spirits in the Face, if you tamely betray them.

CONSIDER, my Lords, how you were treated at the last General E---ions. Have you not Laws as inviolable as the Treaty of Union itself, which secures your Privileges, and regulates the Method of electing your Representatives? Yet need I put you in mind how all these were basely infringed; how you were awed by F---ce? how the B---es were lavishly scatter'd round; how you was imposed upon and deluded; how fair and specious Pretences led you tamely to give up in a Manner the few Pri---ges you had remaining? Was not all this done by one Man, a Man great indeed, but who seems only to employ his Power and Knowledge to promote the vile Schemes of the M-----er, that he himself may be secured in a Share of the Spoils! Why do I live to see the Time, when one of yourselves tames your old brave Spirit, and conquers the P---rs of *Scotland* by a Method which would have cost the V--l--n his Life,  
who

who should have insinuated the dirty Proposal to one of your noble Ancestors.

THE same Man, my Lords, now pays you the Septennial Visit, now he returns to renew the old Arts, now he fawns and flatters and B---es. But it is needless to warn you to beware; see him come with the most destructive Views; see him come to banish from the Publick Service the Man amongst you whom all *Great Britain* eyes with the most grateful Sentiments, as the truest Patriot, the firmest Friend, the most able and honest Statesman; Shall a *Stair* or a *Marchmont* be excluded to make way for --- --- rouse up then; let not the last Remains of your Freedom be quite buried? How know you if you shall have ever an Opportunity again of voting, how know you to what lengths they whose V---s could betray the Rights of a Nation (as is evident by the late infamous Con---ion) may go to continue themselves; learn then from your past Wrongs, and from all that you have Reason yet to fear, how to exert yourselves, and now to treat the Man who before deluded you as your greatest Enemy; think on him as one who now only makes a Handle of you to execute his own b---se Designs; and think on the Men who have been led to v---e for all absurd Schemes, which the united Sense of the Nation condemns.

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If I thought it decent, I could warm you in the glorious Cause, with a Recital of all that your Forefathers have done; I could set before you their heroick Conduct in a thousand and a thousand Instances, and leave the Opposition of your Characters to the Reflection that must arise in your own Consciences; but I know, my Lords, that your own Sense and Spirit will lead you to Thoughts of that Kind, and I know what Presumption I am guilty of in addressing Men in a remote Way, Men born to shine in distinguish'd Spheres, Men born to protect their Country, could they but find an Opportunity: All I can plead for my Rashness is, that my Heart glows with a Love of Liberty, with a Love to my Country, and it trembles for the Honour of the P---s of *Scotland*, lest it should be said in future Records, *In the Year 1741, the Nobility of Scotland were so far degenerated from their noble Ancestors, that, by B---s, they were led to v---e a List of Men to represent them, whose former Conduct had shewn how little they were to be trusted, and whom they know would sell the Li---ies of their Country; that they excluded the only List on which Merit, Virtue, publick Spirit and Capacity appeared.* My prophetick Fancy bodes a much longer Paragraph, and which will be more boldly expressed. Heaven avert my Fears.

I DESIGNED



I DESIGNED once, to have opposed the Characters of certain of your Number, especially of two Br---ers: But as to the One my Pen is not able to place him in such a fair Point of Light as the Hearts of every true *Briton* suggests; and as to the Other, I cannot represent him so b---k as all the Honest know him to be.

LET me next address myself to you, the Gentlemen *Freeholders* in the several Counties of this Kingdom, and endeavour to persuade you of the Consequences that attend your Votes on this important Occasion: Consider with yourselves what you are. If you was born *free*, are you to lose that *Freedom* by one from amongst yourselves? Think of the exorbitant T---s which your Estates have paid for upwards of Twenty Years, and that even in the Time of a profound Peace; Was it not all to maintain a Sett of *P---ce-men*? Your Freeholds were ex---ed to support an Interest against the Interest of your Country: The Law gives you a Right to your Possessions; but is it not easy, when Laws are made, to pick it from you by Degrees? Tell me if you imagine all the Im---ions, which you have born for a long Tract of Years, was necessary to support the Government? It cannot be said; for, what then paid the exorbitant Crowd of *P---ce-m---u*,  
who,

who, I dare say, by their *nominal Offices* and *private Gratuities*, consume upwards of half a Million yearly? It is certainly your Interest to be upon your Guard against all who offer to invade the Constitution; for, if Things turn to Confusion, will not you be the greatest Sufferers? If the T---ny of a M----r prevail, you are undone, and hold your Possessions on the precarious Tenure of his Will; for, know Gentlemen, that a V--e of *Pensioners* can dispossess you of what your Fathers and you have held for Hundreds of Years; for, what is beyond the Reach of a V---n, supported by a Majority? Is not this then worth your Consideration? But you may smile and say it is an impossible Supposition; but, tell me if it is so absurd to think, that he who robs his C---try of her most valuable Rights, her *Trade* and *Commerce*, should next sacrifice the private Rights of Gentlemen to his *Pique* or *Revenge*? I could tell you after what Manner Suits have been carried on by his Partisans, and is it impossible but some one may start up to lay a Claim to your Possessions? Is it then just and reasonable? Do you befriend yourselves, by promoting the Interest of those who have sworn themselves his T--ls amongst you? Besides, in your several Counties, are you not represented by Men who are avowedly

edly Enemies to the true Interest of their Country? Are you not either represented by such as have Posts in the Army, and, of Consequence, by the Law of Self-preservation, are bound to v--e for their own Continuance? Or by Men who enjoy lucrative Places, and therefore must v--e agreeable to their P-----n's Inclinations, or forfeit their *inf-----ous H--e*? But, is it for you, Gentlemen, to promote the Interest of such? Is it for you to promote your own Ruin, the Ruin of your Estates, the Ruin of your Country, to aggrandize a M--n at the publick Expence, who s--ls and b-----ys you? Is it not more eligible to promote the Interest of those who declare themselves Friends to their Country, and tell you honestly, that is the only Motive that engages them to offer you their Service? I cannot see why an honest Man should make the least Hesitation; for, that there are Grievances to be redressed no one can or dare deny; and from whom are you to expect such Redress? Not surely from the Men who brought these very Grievances upon you. But, when I reflect on the honest and uncorrupted Spirit which prevails amongst you, I blame myself for using Arguments to persuade you to your Duty, and to promote the publick Good: I find you for the most part Gentlemen; a Character

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which

which the Lover of his Country only deserves! It is but in a few Counties where *P—e-m--n* and *Pen—n---s* represent you; and even in these I find, by your late Instructions, how much you are persuaded of the Unfitness they should do it any more. The Resolution of the Shire of *Air* will be remembred to their immortal Honour; and I make no Question, but they will pack their Bri—r to his proper Office in the Army. It is with Pleasure I think on the late noble Stand which so many excellent Patriots have made in opposition to the late *Convention*, and to *Place-men*. The Resolutions of the Freeholders of *East, Mid* and *West Lothian*, are so full of Spirit, and breathe such a noble Air of Freedom, that latest Posterity will copy the bright Example, and learn from them how to act when *V--l--ns* get into Place. The Counties of *Angus, &c.* likewise bore a noble Part in testifying against the Corruption of the Age. These honest Examples, I doubt not, will influence others, and I'm hopeful that no Consideration will induce a Gentleman to v--e for one who appears in the black L--ft of *C—v---rs* or *P—e-m--n*.

It is true, that great Families oftimes use their Interest for their particular Friends; but a greater than they calls for your Interest

now,

now, even the whole of your *fellow Subjects*, all the Members of the Society in which you bear such a distinguished Character. I could name a County where one great Man struggles to keep you in Dependence, where you look on the El---ns not as a Service to your Country, but as serving a noble D---c; but shall *Perthshire* be branded with such an ign---ous Character? Shall it alone be the hated Scene, where vile Dep-----ts are preferred? What signifies a National Concern? Is it thus you argue? Can a puny B---st---r, sent on a v---l---s Errand, persuade you that Black is White? Or, can the D---e, whom you pretend to serve, save you from the just Reproaches of Mankind, and the Curses of Posterity? Or, can that Man protect you from the common Ruin which must inevitably befall the Nation, if the b---e T---ls be re-elected who assisted the M---r to execute his pernicious Designs? But I hope you are all at last persuaded, that it is Time to unite in the common Cause, and shew that you are yet Men who value Liberty.

AND now, last of all, let me address the *Royal Burrows* of *Scotland*. Gentlemen, consider what you are, and how you subsist; Are not you a Body established by Law? Have you not Privileges superior to any, except the *British* Parliament, and do you not live



live and subsist on Trade? It must be an established Maxim with you, That when Trade fails, then farewell the very Name of a Merchant. 'Tis needless to tell you, that, according to its Increase you must expect to thrive and flourish, and have due Returns for all your honest Industry and Labour. The Example of all Countries, and of our own, is before your Eyes; and therefore, you ought to have that in View, preferable to any Consideration whatsoever; for your own private Interest and Gain is so nearly connected with the Advancement of Trade and Commerce, that you must be the veriest Fools in Being, if you do not pursue all Methods for securing that on which the Happiness, nay, the very Subsistence of yourselves and Families depend. Now, let us view how far the prime Mr---r, or his T--ls, your Representatives, regard you or that grand National Concern.

YOUR own Books are sufficient to persuade you of a great deal of what I am about to advance; for, upon casting up your Imports and Exports, you'll be satisfied, if, of late Years, Trade has appeared in so beneficial a Shape as formerly.

I lay it down as an undoubted Maxim, That, as Merchants have a Connection one with another, as the great Trader takes from  
the

the smaller such Commodities are fit for his Market, and he, in return, deals with him for such Goods as are saleable in that particular Place where his Business lies, and which the large Dealer has imported from foreign Places, that a Loss to one is a Detriment to the other ; for, if there be an Obstruction of Trade, the Exporter cannot afford the usual Prices ; by which Means, either the Goods lie dead upon the Manufacturer's Hands, or the Merchant's who proposed to make his Advantage by buying them up at first ; by this means there is a real Loss in that particular Branch of Trade to which you had applied, and your Shops and Warehouses cannot be supplied by Returns of saleable Goods, which, in effect, must soon turn you to be Bankrupts.

If this be the Case, which I flatter myself is obvious to all, then you are to regard the Men who are Friends to the Trade of the Nation, as Friends to you, yea, as Men to whom you are more obliged than to him who deals with you to the Extent of Hundreds a Year ; and, *vice versa*, you are to look on the Men who endeavour to ruin Commerce, as your greatest Enemies, as such who only take a Pleasure in your Misery, and regard you no further than to have you reduced to such a Pass, to be glad of a Septennial

ennial B---be to support your sinking Credit, and relieve the present Exigencies of yourselves and your Families.

Now, Gentlemen, let us apply these undoubted Maxims to our present Case, and bear with me while I lay before you some Facts which all *Great Britain* knows, and you particularly feel.

AND, is it not certain, that, of late Years, your Trade has been betrayed? Have you not seen a base, villanous and cowardly Nation insult and rob you? Have you not risked your Estates? And have you not seen it insured at double, triple Prices? Could you promise on the Return of a single Ship? Were not the Seas infested with cruel Pyrates for twenty Years past; and are you still silent? Have you not seen your undoubted Rights sold by Pl---po's, and your Hands restrained from honest Industry to make yourselves and Families live? Have you not seen how the trading Part of the Nation have resented the late Injuries the *British* Commerce has received, and are you still? It is impossible to imagine that Men, such as you, can be quiet when their All is at Stake: Are you deaf to your our own Interests, deaf to the Cries of your half ruin'd Families? And will a Septennial B---be bear a Proportion to the honest Gains which you might

might have proposed in a fair Way of Trade.

You know well how you have been plundered for a long Tract of Years; and you know too, when Petitions were presented, with what Ind---y they were rejected. It is needless for me to repeat the History of your Sufferings, and of all the shameful Tr---s have been made to ruin you, only think to whom all this was owing; think on your own Repre---ves, and justify their Conduct if you can.

Now, what has been done to redress your repeated Complaints, and put an End to your just Grievances? Why? we have had *Treaties*, and, last of all, we have had a *War*. Yes, Gentlemen, we have had a War, and a necessary one too, upon your Account. Sir *Ro---t*, I name the Man, when he could no longer withstand the united Voice of the Nation, gave you a War; but, of what Kind pray? Why, as at your Desire it was commenced, so at your Expence it is to be maintained; you forced that pacifick Man into Measures dangerous to his Repose; and, in Return, you are to suffer; for, except a mere Formality, what Advantages has *Britain* seen? and what Losses has she not met with? The present List of Captures on the *Spanish* Side, and which increases every Day, amounts to near 300, and our powerful and expensive  
Fleets

Fleets have pick'd up six of the Enemies Ships. Tell me, Gentlemen, if this does not seem as a designed Punishment on you for your Clamours? Does it not seem as if some one had entred into a League with *Spain*, that our Merchants should suffer and be ruined? Does not an honest Indignation arise at all the expensive Shews we have had? Read only the common *Gazettes*, and tell me what has been done to prevent your Ships and Effects from falling into the Hands of your villanous Enemies? Is not the Channel full of Privateers? And have they not kept the Seas when Sir *John Norris* returned? Is all this to be tamely endured? I should but lose Time to expose all the Misconduct has been seen in the Prosecution of a War which both Houses of Parliament deem'd so just and necessary. Our Twenty Gun Ships are yet unready for Action; would to God our Ad---ls were prepared with fit Instructions for it. Is an expensive Camp at *H--flow* calculated for the publick Service? Or, are the G---ls that now command it fit for the least Trust? But I leave this to your own cool Thoughts.

Here my Countrymen may object, That they deal little in foreign Trade, that they feel none of the Severities which I have represented above: But alas! how widely are they



they mistaken ; for when Trade fails in its most extensive Branches, all the inferior must decay and fall of Course ; think if this is not the Case, yea, and of Necessity must be, so that at last you must be ruined.

INDEED of all Men, the Merchants have the least Reason to promote the present Schemes ; for as to others, a little puny B--be, may have some Weight, but with them, if they take it, it is only to ensure their own Destruction, for they know well the profess'd Enmity of that wicked M-n to all of their Denomination. Do not you know how infamously you are treated, how you are called ? and shall you, after all, v--te for a fawning Syco-phant, who caresses you once in seven Years, and who before made it his Business to reduce you to Misery and Contempt ?

I COULD enlarge a great deal on the Measures used above, but you know them so well that I need not, and Ty---ny is so open that I dare not ! But still I can talk of a fellow Subject with that Honest freedom which a *Briton* ought ; and therefore let me address you against the Con-----ers, as Men who are leagued together for your Ruin.

You have seen them now in such a Shape, that no Words can render their Characters so black, as their publick Actions have done. Shall an Adv---te promise you to his T--ls ?

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Shall another damn you for Scoundrels? Shall a third treat your Body of Merchants worse than a *Spaniard* could have done, and with all the Villany of a professed Rascal? Shall another tell openly your Instructions are only *fit to wipe his Breech*? Gentlemen, have you any Spirit, and will you not observe these Men? Will you not give them another Opportunity to make you the Jest of Mankind, to *insult* and *laugh you to Scorn*? Will you give them another Opportunity to *oppress* and *ruin* you? Are you so silly to forget yourselves? Are you so silly to lend a Hand to your own Undoing? Will you contrive to bring Poverty upon your Families, and Contempt upon yourselves? I hope you are at last persuaded, that no Upstart B----st---r, were it even a Lord Adv-----te himself, no Military Man, if he be against the true Interest of *Britain*, is fit to represent you; therefore, shew that you have some Sense and Spirit left, and that you can resent your Wrongs with a becoming Dignity.

And, what but the B---be can persuade you to the Contrary? And is that equal to the Gains which a fair Trader may honestly make? Is a Bribe *now* sufficient to provide for you *ever after*? For, when you are turned out of Power in the Place where you live, all Men will despise you, and the Briber

ber be the very first to spurn you from his Presence.

IN the mean time enough has been said, to convince you of your Danger, to convince you that the M——r's T---ls must be your Enemies, because both he and they have declared to the World, That no Opportunity shall slip of reducing you indeed to the Condition of Beggars ; and therefore, can you treat with Men whom you are obliged to eye as so many fell destroying Harpies, grudging you your Daily Bread, and snatching at every Morsel which your own Industry had earned for the Subsistence of yourselves and Families? Well may he venture on a B---be, as, before the Seven Years run out, you are so handsomly fleeced, and so decently obliged to return it ; you know how penal Laws have been multiplied ; and you know how little Security you have for your Lives and Goods, when a Couple of *Excisemen* can swear you out of both.

CONSIDER, Gentlemen, with what Indignity you are treated? See that honest uncorrupted Body, the common Council of the City of *London*, put into the Hands of a Sett of vile Scribblers to ridicule ! The more honest they appear, and the more they contribute for the general Good, they are sure to meet with, proportionally, greater Scurrilities.

Does not this shew what you may expect? But I name that great City, to set before you its Conduct, and to excite you to be influenced by such a fair and bright Example.

Y O U know the infamous Excise Scheme was contrived by our grand Proj---or, to reduce you into as absolute a State of Slavery as ever the Subjects of the Great *Turk* were under? However, the real Friends of Liberty then roused up, and, at last, diverted the impending Blow ; then the City of *London* appeared, and petitioned against it; and, as at that Time he himself did not seem to be such a Proficient in Wickedness, as not to tremble when so eminent a Body of Men opposed him, he was content to sit quietly down with a V--te of the House for rejecting his favourite Scheme, but retained such an insuperable Grudge at the Men who had been most instrumental to thwart it, that his Conduct has since made it evident, that he knows not one Virtue, much less that of Forgiveness; he attempted, by all Means, to humble these ( as he called them) *sturdy Beggars*, and seemed as he had entred into Concert with, and kept *Guarda Costas* in Pay, to wreck his Revenge on the honest suffering Merchants; they bore the repeated Plunders with a noble Impatience, and petitioned the Parliament, to have their Trade effectually secured,

cured. This honest Procedure was again constructed by the Mi——ster as an Insult; for he who had set himself above all Men, and Parliaments too, could not bear he should have been so far overlook'd, as not to be humbly petitioned on the Head, instead of the House of Commons; or that they should not have trusted themselves to the Mercy of Negotiations: Therefore he immediately opposed all the Measures that were spoken of for obtaining a just Redress, and when he found the Torrent too strong, he went so far as to pretend to be in the Merchants Interest, and promised to have their Wrongs made up by an Honourable Satisfaction, or else by Force of Arms, and added this remarkable Expression, *With what Face can I appear here next Session, if Satisfaction be not obtained?* By this Cunning he imposed on the best, but the wisest still imagined they saw the old Fox only in a new Light. However, his Promises were believed, and immediately Mr. Keene and he fell to Work with *Spain*, and negotiated the memorable Convention. I shall not talk one Word on that Treaty; for to name it, is enough to warm all honest Hearts with Indignation at its Author. But the petty trifling Sum which was stipulated, *Spain* refused to pay; the Clamour ensued; the Minister



ster retired to *Houghton-Hall*; the Privy  
 Council published an Order for Letters of  
 Marque and Reprisal; and, at last we had  
 a War. The City of *London* will be remem-  
 bered, to its immortal Honour, by the late  
*Briton*, on Account of the noble Stamp  
 which the Merchants made to save the  
 Nation from Disgrace; and the honest Argu-  
 ments which they used at the Bar of the  
 House of Commons against the Convention  
 (when they were denied to be heard by  
 their Council) will appear in latest Records  
 and bear Testimony to the Virtue of these Men  
 who lived in such bad and degenerate Times  
 and when at their annual Election of a Lord  
 Mayor, a Candidate appear'd whose Turn  
 was to have the Chair, they dared to set him  
 aside, as an infamous T--l, and Con——ner.  
 They went further, and thank'd their four  
 worthy Representatives for their strenuous  
 Opposition to that Treaty, and at the same  
 Time, instructed them to use their utmost En-  
 deavours to promote a Bill for limiting the  
 exorbitant Crowd of Place-men in the House  
 of Commons. Such noble Publick-spirited  
 Actions were soon imitated by the better Part  
 of their Fellow-Subjects, who all join'd to in-  
 struct their respective Members for the very  
 same Ends, and tho' many of these Gentlemen  
 were pleased to act in direct Opposition to

the Mind of their Constituents in so very essential a Point; yet it is not to be thought that any true Patriot will be easy till he see such a salutary Law pass; and as the Way to effect it, must be by an honest Choice of Representatives, it is as little to be thought that any who wish well to their Country, will vote for a Man who is either a publick or private Pen---ner to the Mi---er.

No w, Gentlemen, does not this Example excite you to publick Spirit? Does it not prevail with you to lay aside private Views and Interests, and to unite for the Publick good? Do you not in your Hearts approve of the Conduct of that City? And will you not contribute to have that *One* which you belong to stand in as fair and Honest a View.

WHEN I consider the Instructions which many of you gave last Year, I can't doubt of your good Designs, I can't doubt but your Eyes are opened; some of these excellent Papers, particularly those offered to the Town-Council of *Edinburgh*, and those presented to Mr. *Drummond*, by the Dean of Guild, &c. of *Dundee*, are so full of true Spirit, that they must remain perpetual Evidences against that Borough or County, who at the next Elections shall give themselves the Lie, and contradict them by any Vote whatsoever. Again have you not all declared your

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Satisfaction with, and Approbation of the Measures which the great disgraced *Argyle* has pursued? Is he not a Victim for you? Is he not stript of all, for vindicating the Rights of *Edinburgh*, and of the Merchants? And have not you gratefully exprest your Thanks on that Account,? Can you then be so monstrously inconsistent with yourselves, to act in Opposition to the Measures which your whole Body has so solemnly approved of? It cannot be! The thought is so unworthy of a Man, that all honest Hearts will disdain to entertain it: Therefore let no Temptation prevail upon you to withdraw from the only Men that can support you, or join with these, however nearly you may be connected with them, whom you know will put the finishing Hand to the Ruin of Tr---e, and consequently of you.

THEN you may propose to see Commerce flourish, the Merchant be no more contemptible, *Great Britain* rise from her sinking State, and again hold the Balance of *Europe*; then we may be assured our Enemies will be vigorously pursued, till we have a lasting and honourable Peace, upon terms which no Nation on Earth dare presume to chalk out to us; then we may again with Pleasure see honest Men employed, those who are now dignified with a virtuous Disgrace, recalled to their just Honours

nours to which their Merit gives them so good a Title; and, in short, see our Constitution secured beyond the Reach of any future designing Vi--l--n.

BUT I desist from recommending Honesty further, as I soon design a particular Address to the Royal Borrowers of *Scotland*, wherein I'll consider your Grievances, how they have been brought about, and how they may be redressed; then I'll too observe the Decay of your Manufactures, and to what Reasons it is to be ascribed; I'll lay your Condition, sad as it is, before your Eyes, and leave you to judge for yourselves.

AND now let me beg it of my Countrymen in general, to act in an Affair on which their own and their Posterity's Advantage depends so much, with that Honesty and publick Spirit which they ought. Let no partial Motives prevail. Let not Names, however great or distinguish'd, prevail with you to involve yourselves in the Guilt of all these ruining Consequences which are so justly to be dreaded. Consider how much depends upon your Votes; and consider if any Crime be equal to that blackest, of betraying one's Country. Keep yourselves therefore disengaged; consider the Characters of those who offer themselves to represent you; and consult your own Consciences which are the fit-

test or most likely to promote your Happiness. Let Honour and Interest too for once prevail with you to rouse up in the noble and good Cause, and doubt not but there are thousands and thousands too, ready to promote it.

BUT that you may the better be able to judge with your own Eyes, and know what Powers the Law give to you who are Electors, I shall conclude this Address with an Abstract of the several Statutes now in Force relating to Elections, and give you a List of the Men who now represent you that voted for the *Con——on*. By this Means you'll know how to act, and how to treat them who relish'd that infamous Piece of M——al Chicanery so much, when the whole Nation blush'd at the Disgrace.

THE first Act now in Force is dated September 16th 1681, and was made in 3d Parliament of K. Charles II. it is intitled, *An Act concerning the Elections of Commissioners for Shires*. By it 'tis specially enacted, *That none shall have Vote in the Election of Commissioners for Shires or Stewartries, which have been in Use to be represented in Parliaments and Conventions, but those who at that Time shall be publickly infest in Property or Superiority, and in Possession of a Forty Shilling Land of old Extent, holden of the*  
 ✓ King



King or Prince, distinct from the Feu-duties in Feu-lands; or where the said old Extent appears not, shall be infest in Lands liable in publick Burden, for his Majesty's Supplies, for Four hundred Pounds of valued Rent, whether Kirk-lands now holden of the King, or other Lands holding Feu, Ward, or Blench of his Majesty, as King or Prince of Scotland; and that Apprisers or Adjudgers shall have no Vote in the said Elections during the legal Reversion: And that after the expiring thereof, the Appriser or Adjudger first infest shall only have Vote, and no other Appriser or Adjudger coming in pari passu, till their Shares be divided, that the Extent or Valuation thereof may appear; and that during the Legal, the Heritor having Right to the Reversion shall have Vote, and likewise proper Wadsetters, having Lands of the like Holding, Extent, or Valuation foresaid; which Rights to vote, proceeding upon expired Comprising, Adjudication, or proper Wadset, shall not be questionable upon Pretence of any Order of Redemption, Payment and Satisfaction, unless a Decreet of Declarator, or voluntary Redemption, Renunciation. or Resignation, be produced; and that apparent Heirs, being in Possession by virtue of their Predecessors Infestment, of the Holding, Extent, and Valuation foresaid, and likewise  
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*Liferenters and Husbands for the Free-holds of their Wives, or having Right to a Liferent by the Courtesy of the said Liferenters, claim their Vote, otherwise the Fiar shall have Vote; but that both Fiar and Liferenter shall not have Vote, unless they have distinct Lands of the Holding, Extent, or Valuation foresaid; but that no Person infest for Relief, or Payment of Sums, shall have Vote, but the Grantees of the said Rights, their Heirs and Successors* — The rest of this Act contains Directions relating to the making up a Roll of Voters, and when Objections to Voters may be made, and how decided; with an express Clause, That if the Objection be found not good, the Objector shall pay the Expences, and a Fine of five hundred Merks; and that if the Objection be sustained in Parliament, the Party objected against shall pay five hundred Merks.

In the first Parliament of Queen Anne, an Act passed for settling the Manner of electing the sixteen Peers, and forty five Commons to represent Scotland in the Parliament of Great Britain. This Statute is explained by another made in the sixth of that Queen; they contain the common Forms at Elections, both of Peers and Commons, and the

the Qualifications necessary in Voters, but little else.

By the Act *duodecimo Regina Annae*, it is provided, That from and after the Determination of that Parliament, *No Conveyance or Right whatsoever, whereupon Infestment is not taken, and Sasine registrated one Year before the Test of the Writs for calling a new Parliament, shall, upon Objection made in that Behalf, intitle the Person or Persons so infest to vote or to be elected at that Election in any Shire or Stewartry in Scotland, &c.* And further, That any of the Electors present, suspecting any Person to have their Estates in Trust, and for the Behoof of another, may require the Preses to tender an Oath to the Person suspected. By the same Statute it is enacted, That *no Infestment on any redeemable Right whatsoever, except proper Wadsets, Adjudications or Apprisings, allowed by the Act 1681, shall intitle to a Vote, or to be elected: That Persons not inrolled at former Elections, shall not be admitted to vote, without they first produce a sufficient Right to qualify them to vote at that Election.*

THE next Act of Parliament relating to the Scots Elections, is *Anno 7mo Geo. II.* intituled, *An Act for the better regulating the Election of Members to serve in the House*

*House of Commons for that Part of Great Britain called Scotland, and for incapacitating the Judges of the Court of Session, Court of Justiciary, and Barons of the Court of Exchequer in Scotland to be elected, or to sit or vote as Members of the House of Commons. This Statute enacts, That if the Clerk of any Meeting of Freeholders for the Election of a Commissioner to serve in Parliament for any Shire or Stewartry in Scotland, shall wilfully return to the Sheriff or Stewart any Person other than him who shall be duly elected; or if any other Person pretending to be Clerk, tho' not duly elected; shall presume to act as Clerk, and wilfully return to the Sheriff any Person as elected, who shall not be duly elected by the major Part of such Meeting, the Party so offending shall, for every such Offence, forfeit the Sum of Five hundred Pounds Sterling, to be recovered by the Candidate so elected, to whose Prejudice such false Return is made. It further provides, That whoever refuses, on his being required, to take the Oath appointed thereby, his Vote shall not be admitted, and his Name forthwith be erased out of the Roll of Freeholders; and in case of swearing falsely, the Punishment of Perjury is to be inflicted. It likewise requires the several Sheriffs and Stewarts in Scotland, within the Space of*

*four*

four Days after the Writ shall come to their Hand, to issue their Precepts to the several Burrows within their Jurisdiction to elect their Delegates, and to cause the same to be delivered to the chief Magistrate of such Burrow, resident in the Burrow for the Time being, and that such chief Magistrate shall, within two Days after his Receipt of the same, call and summon the Council of the Burrow together, by giving Notice personally, or leaving Notice at the Dwelling-house of every Councillor then resident in such Burrow, which Council shall then appoint a peremptory Day for the Election of the Delegate; but two free Days shall intervene betwixt the Meeting of the Council which appoints the Election of the Delegate, and the Day on which the Election of the Delegate is to be made. And to prevent double Elections of Magistrates in Burrows, which frequently occasion double Commissions to Delegates, it is enacted, That, at the annual Election of Magistrates or Councillors for Burrows, no Magistrate or Councillor, or any Number of Magistrates or Councillors, shall, for the future, upon any Pretence whatsoever, take upon him or them to separate from the Majority of the Magistrates and Councillors, who have been such for the Year preceeding, and to appoint or elect separate



*parate Magistrates or Councillors, but shall submit to the Election made; and if a separate Election be made, it shall be ipso facto void, and every Magistrate or Councillor who concurred in the same shall forfeit 100 L. Sterling.*

*'Tis further ordained, That every Sheriff or Stewart in Scotland, who shall wilfully annex to the Writ any false or undue Return, and every common Clerk of any presiding Burrow, who shall wilfully return to the Sheriff or Stewart, any Person other than the Person duly elected; or who shall neglect, or refuse to return to the Sheriff or Stewart any Person duly elected, shall forfeit the Sum of 500 L. Sterling to the Person intitled to have been returned and not returned, to be recovered in a summary Way before the Court of Session, provided the Complaint be made within the Space of six Months after the Return is made, &c.*

By this Statute, Freeholders are ordained to take the Oaths at the Election of a Clerk.

Thus I have laid before you an Abstract of several Laws, which will serve as a Guide to you in many Instances. You will see, however wisely the Legislature has provided for many Events, that yet several necessary Things are wanting, and particularly to disqualify Placemen and Pensioners from being elected.

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electd. As you have made so just Remon-  
 strances to have that Law pass'd, I can't al-  
 low myself to doubt, that, till it shall take  
 Effect, you will provide against the Inconve-  
 niencies of the Want of it yourselves, and  
 shew that you judge none of that Herd wor-  
 thy to represent you.

AND now, to conclude all, I subjoin a  
 List which I could wish fairer than it is; but  
 'tis Fact, that these Names belong to Men  
 who endeavoured to pin down on *Great*  
*Britain* the most ignominious Conditions of a  
 P--ce that was ever offered by one Nation to  
 another. Let this List then serve as a Bea-  
 con, to teach the Unwary to avoid the Rocks  
 by which others have been deceived.

## A LIST of Scots Members who voted for the Con---tion.

*J* *Ames Abercrombie*, Member for *Bamff-*  
*Shire*, Captain of Foot, King's Painter  
 in *Scotland*, and Deputy-Governor of  
*Stirling-Castle*, Salary 600 *L. Sterling*.

*Charles Areskine*, Esq; *Dumfries-Shire*,  
 Lord Advocate of *Scotland*, Salary 1000 *L.*  
*Sterling*.

*Alexander Brodie*, Esq; *Elgin-Shire*, *Ly-*  
*on King at Arms*, &c. Salary 800 *L. Sterl.*

*Alexander Brodie* Esq; his Brother, *Nairn-*

Shire, a Company in *New-York*, no Salary mentioned.

Brigadier *James Campbell*, *Air-Shire*, Colonel of the Regiment of *Gray Dragoons*, and Groom of the Bed-chamber, and Governor of *Edinburgh-Castle*, Salary 3800 *L.*

Colonel *John Campbell*, *Dumbarton-Shire*, Groom of the Bed-chamber, and Colonel of a Regiment of Foot, and his Daughter Keeper of *Somerset-house*, Salary 1400 *L. Sterl.*

The Hon. *James Carmichael*, Esq; *Lanark-Shire*, Brother to the Earl of *Hyndford*, a Lord of the Police, and Commissioner to the Assembly in *Scotland*.

The Hon. *Robert Douglas*, *Orkney*, Captain of a Company of Foot, Salary 250 *L.*

*John Drummond*, Esq; *Dundee*, &c. Commissary for settling the Trade in the *Netherlands*, and his Nephew Secretary to the Order of the Thistle, Salary 1500 *L.*

*James Fall*, Esq; for *Jeaburgh-Shire*, a Lease in *Holy Island*, Salary 800 *L. Sterling.*

*Peter Halket*, Esq; *Inverkeithen*, Captain of Foot, Salary 250 *L. Sterling.*

*Patrick Heron* Esq; *Kirkudbright*, his Son a Company in *Georgia*, no Salary mentioned.

*Patrick Lindsay*, Esq; for the City of *Edinburgh*, his Brother in Law Receiver General in *Scotland*, and is said himself

self to be Purveyor of Coal and Candle to the *Canongate* Guard, and certainly has now the Profits of cloathing the Independent *Highland* Companies, which will amount to 600 *L. per Annum*.

*William Maule* Esq; *Angus-Shire*, Captain of Foot, and his Brother Register of the *Safines* in *Scotland*, Salary 250 *L. Sterling*.

Lord *John Murray*, *Perth*, Colonel in the Foot Guards, Salary 500 *L. Sterling*.

Sir *James Nasmyth*, *Peebles-Shire*, his Brother Clerk to the Admission of Notars in *Scotland*.

The Hon. Colonel *James Stuart*, *Wigton*, Colonel in the Guards, 500 *L. Sterling*.

*William Stuart* Esq; *Bamff*, &c. Paymaster of foreign Pensions, and Overseer of the King's Swans, and principal King's Remembrancer for the Exchequer in *Scotland*, Salary 1400 *Sterling*.

*Duncan Urquhart*, Esq; *Forress*, &c. Lieutenant in the Foot Guards, and his Father Receiver of the Bishops Rents, Salary 200 *L. Sterling*.

*John Falconer* Esquire, *Kincardine-Shire*.  
*James Grant*, *Inverness-Shire*, a Grant of Duties in *Scotland*, his eldest Son Commissioner of Police, his second Son Captain in the Army, and his Brother Captain of an Independent Company, Salary

Sir *Robert Lawrie, Kirkudbright.*

Sir *Robert Monro* for *Dingwal*, his Brother in the Independent Companies.

Sir *James Sinclair, Sutherland*, Colonel of a Regiment and two Battalions, Salary 2000 *L. Sterling.*

AND now I have only to add my sincere Wishes, that you may be all directed to such a worthy Choice of Representatives as will most effectually contribute to the Relief of *Great Britain*; and, by their Candour, Honesty, and publick Spirit, retrieve the antient Character of *Scotland*, which has been long lost in the Eyes of many.

F I N I S.